

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
SCS-03 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SCA-01
DHA-02 CPR-01 /059 R

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APPROVED BY EUR/SOV:RLBARRY
-----160243Z 084611 /72S
O 160009Z JUN 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 139249

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC, SCUL, CSCE, UR, US (TOTH, ROBERT)

SUBJECT: TOTH CASE

REF: MOSCOW 8793

1. DEPARTMENT IS CONCERNED THAT TOTH UNDER PRESSURE IS PROVIDING INFORMATION IN THE PROTOCOLS WHICH HE IS BEING FORCED TO SIGN WHICH WILL BE USED IN TRIALS OF SHCHARANSKIY AND OTHER DISSIDENTS AND WHICH COULD BE USED AGAINST OTHER US JOURNALISTS.

2. WE RECOGNIZE THAT TOTH MUST JUDGE FOR HIMSELF HOW TO PROCEED BUT SUGGEST THAT EMBASSY REITERATE TO HIM THE POSSIBILITY OF AVOIDING SIGNING PROTOCOLS ON THE GROUNDS THAT HE DOES NOT UNDERSTAND SOVIET LEGAL PROCEDURE, DISPUTES ACCURACY OF TRANSLATION, ETC. ALSO SUGGEST THAT IF ANOTHER INTERROGATIONS' SESSION SEEMS LIKELY THAT EMBASSY CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR PRESENCE OF CONSULAR OFFICER DURING SESSION
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WITH MFA AND INVESTIGATORS AS WELL. ARTICLE 49 OF RSFSR CCP PROVIDES FOR OBLIGATORY PARTICIPATION OF DEFENSE COUNSEL IN PROCEEDINGS INVOLVING THOSE WHO DON'T HAVE COMMAND OF LANGUAGE OF PROCEEDING, AND IN PAST CASES INVOLVING US CITIZENS WE HAVE TRIED (UNSUCCESSFULLY) TO INVOKE THIS PROVISION OF LAW TO PERMIT ATTENDANT OF LAWYER OR US OFFICIAL DURING INTERROGATION.

3. REQUEST EMBASSY'S BEST ASSESSMENT OF OUTCOME OF
CASE AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTIONS WHICH SHOULD BE TAKEN
HERE AND IN MOSCOW TO OBTAIN TOTH'S PROMPT RELEASE AND
AVOID FURTHER CHARGES AGAINST US JOURNALISTS OR DIPLOMATS.
CHRISTOPHER

NOTE BY OC/T: REFERENCE BELIEVED TO BE MOSCOW 8597.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DETENTION, JOURNALISTS
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Sent Date: 16-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE139249
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Drafter: RLBARRY:VB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770649/aaaabrhz.tel
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Reference: 77 MOSCOW 8793
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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SAS ID: 2124686
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TOTH CASE
TAGS: CASC, SCUL, UR, US, CSCE, (TOTH, ROBERT)
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
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